

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 IO-14 AF-10 SAB-01 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 NIC-01

DRC-01 /159 W

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R 211321Z DEC 73

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4800

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

USINT CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL LENINGRAD POUCH

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR UR XF

SUBJ: PRAVDA MAINTAINS POSITIVE LINE ON GENEVA CONFERENCE

1. SUMMARY: ON MORNING OF GENEVA OPENING, PRAVDA DECEMBER 21
MAINTAINS UPBEAT VIEW OF PROSPECTS FOR ME CONFERENCE BUT
CONTRASTS ARAB REASONABLENESS WITH ISRAEL'S "EXPANSIONIST
SPIRIT." TASS ENGLISH WIRE DECEMBER 21 REPORTS THAT SYRIAN
DELEGATION MAY JOIN CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS AT LATER DATE.
END SUMMARY

2. PRAVDA GENEVA CORRESPONDENTS PLAY UP GROMYKO AIRPORT
ARRIVAL STATEMENT STRESSING SOVIET SUPPORT FOR JUST ARAB
STRUGGLE, COMMITMENT TO ME SETTLEMENT ON BASIS OF SC
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RESULTUIONS AND PLEDGE TO DO ALL POSSIBLE TO MAKE
CONFERENCE A SUCCESS. PRAVDA ALSO QUOTES EGYPTIAN

FOREIGN MINISTER FAHMI TO EFFECT THAT EGYPT EXPECTS CONFERENCE WILL NOT WASTE TIME AND WILL REACH TANGIBLE RESULTS. IN CONTRAST PRAVDA CORRESPONDENTS REPORT THAT DECLARATIONS BY ISRAELI CONFERENCE DELEGATION AT PRESS CONFERENCE WERE COUCHED IN "EXPANISIONIST" SPIRIT CHARACTERISTIC OF TEL AVIV.

3. PRAVDA CARRIES BEIRUT-DATELINED TASS ITEM GIVING ACCOUNT OF AN NAHAR INTERVIEW WITH MEMBER OF EGYPTIAN DELEGATION. ACCORDING TO STORY, HE SAID EGYPT WILL SPEAK IN NAME OF ALL ARAB COUNTRIES AT CONFERENCE, IS READY TO FULFILL ALL SC RESOLUTIONS QUICKLY, AND UNDERSTANDS SOLUTION TO COMPLEX ME CRISIS POSSIBLE ONLY IF ALL PARTIES DEMONSTRATE GOOD WILL.

4. ON ISRAEL, PRESS REPORTS MEIR STATEMENT AT HAIFA TO EFFECT THAT ISRAEL DOES NOT INTEND TO RETURN ALL OCCUPIED LANDS. TASS COMMENTS SUCH POSITION ATTESTS TO ISRAELI RULERS' "UNWILLINGNESS TO GIVE UP POLICY OF AGGRESSION AND EXPANSION."

5. TASS ENGLISH WIRE DECEMBER 21 SAYS CONFERENCE WILL BE OPENED WITH ISRAEL, JORDAN AND EGYPT ATTENDING FROM ME AND THAT OTHER DELEGATIONS INCLUDING SYRIA MAY JOIN IT LATER. SOMMERLATTE

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30 JUN 2005

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